

WINNIPEG

# metro


NEWS  
WORTH  
SHARING.

## SIX MOVIES UNWRAPPING ON CHRISTMAS

METRO OFFERS A NICE LIST OF NON-TURKEYS TO GO SEE ON DEC. 25 **PAGE 13**



## Merriment but no Metro

Sorry, we're taking a break for the holidays. We're back on Dec. 26 with special issue looking ahead to 2015!

## Jury finds Luka Rocco Magnotta guilty of murder

Not criminally responsible defence rejected by jury **PAGE 8**



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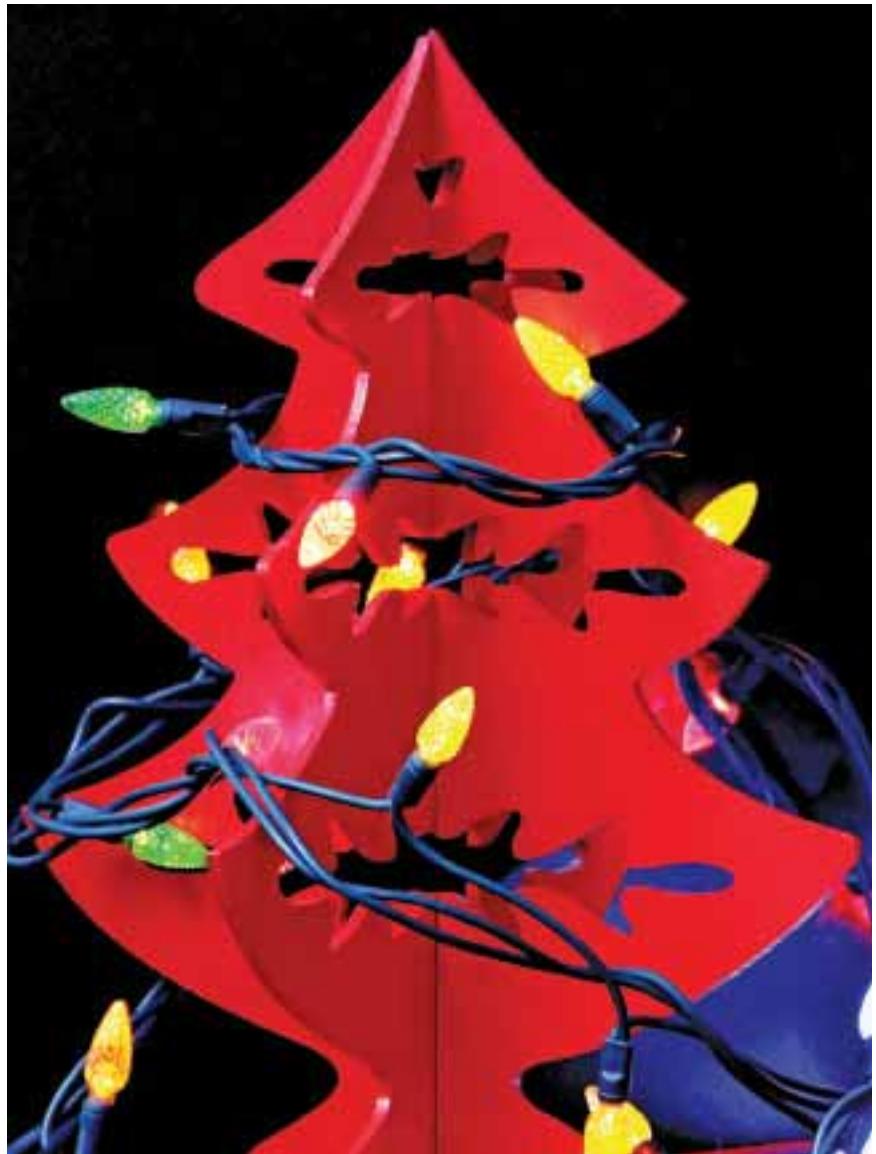
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## AND TO ALL A DELIGHT

'Tis the season for cheer, merriment and caring, and Metro hopes your holiday season — no matter what you celebrate, from Hanukkah to Festivus — is healthy and bright. All the best to our fantastic readers and your families. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

# Warm winter trades plows for potholes

## Not all sunshine.

Annual budget still in red from last winter, and warmth bringing in a few extra costs

SAMANTHA  
SAMSON  
[winnipeg.metronews.ca](http://winnipeg.metronews.ca)

Thanks to unseasonably warm temperatures, Winnipeggers can walk down Portage Avenue mitten-less. But while the warmth may be welcomed by locals, it leaves the city with pothole-sized problems.

Although the numbers aren't in yet, Jim Berezowsky, manager of street maintenance, said the savings in snow clearing are likely being eaten away by the amount of salt being put on the roads thanks to a constant freeze-thaw cycle.

"If this weather continues, we may come in at or just below (what we normally spend on snow clearing)," said Berezowsky.

"Our budget is running on a January-to-December fiscal budget, and right now we're in an overexpenditure regardless till the year end."

Berezowsky said the biggest factor in the new costs is potholes created by this past week's freeze-thaw cycle.

Mending potholes in the winter is pricier than in the spring, he added, because the city has to use special asphalt.



**Jim Berezowsky, manager of street maintenance, speaks to the media in Winnipeg on Tuesday.** SAMANTHA SAMSON/METRO

## Breaking the snow bank

# \$28.4M

The city's current snow-clearing budget deficit for this year

"The cold-mix material is more expensive," said Berezowsky. "It's produced in the late fall and stockpiled, and there is a cost to keep it pliable through the colder months."

"We haven't had, in the last 15 to 20 years, seven straight days of freezing drizzle, which is quite odd

for pre-Christmas here in the city of Winnipeg."

The snow-clearing budget's current deficit is \$28.4 million thanks to money spent in January through March of this year. A report from Environment Canada says Winnipeg saw 155 centimetres of snow during the 2013-14 winter, 55 centimetres over the average.

"With the freeze-thaw hitting us and this freezing drizzle, it's caused a bit of an impact but not to the extent of what the citizens saw the previous winter," said Berezowsky.

## Rain, rain, come to stay

"We haven't had, in the last 15 to 20 years, seven straight days of freezing drizzle, which is quite odd for pre-Christmas here in the city of Winnipeg."

Jim Berezowsky, manager of street maintenance



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Canada

Shuffle

## Cabinet ministers get new duties

Two Manitoba cabinet ministers have new portfolios following the resignation of Steve Ashton as transportation minister.

Agriculture Minister Ron Kostyshyn is now responsible for infrastructure and transportation, as well as emergency measures. The government says Kostyshyn will remain minister of agriculture as well.

Dave Chomiak, who is minister of mineral resources, is now house leader.

Ashton resigned Monday to launch a leadership bid to become the province's next premier.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Charity

## Cheer Board hits the home stretch

As Christmas quickly approaches, the Christmas Cheer Board is working hard at finishing up hamper deliveries.

"They're all gone for the most part," said Kai Madsen, the board's executive director. "We're just cleaning up the odd straggler here and there."

The Cheer Board will help roughly 18,000 families this year, Madsen said. The cost of packing the hampers is extremely high, estimated at \$900,000. He said about a quarter of yearly donations come in to the Cheer Board during the last week of the year, but donations have been slower this year.

"We buy the turkeys and the toys, because we don't always have the quantity we need for each age group," said Madsen. "We've made sure we have what we need for the hampers. Getting donations is absolutely priority now."

The Cheer Board hasn't missed its financial goals since its inception, and they feel confident they will hit the mark again this year, Madsen said.

"We never want to take anything for granted, but we have a cliché blanket statement," said Madsen. "If you donated last year, whether through your bank, or by cheque, we just ask you do it again this year. Make it a Christmas tradition."

EVAN MATTHEWS/FOR METRO



1  
NEWS

# Prepare for a 'very different city hall'

**Interview.** Mayor Brian Bowman looks ahead to the new year



**BERNICE PONTANILLA**

bernice.pontanilla@metronews.ca

Expect Mayor Brian Bowman to release more documentation in the new year that "has been requested" and has not been provided to Winnipeggers and the media.

Bowman made this pledge during a year-end interview with Metro last Friday, but wouldn't say if the documents are the same ones being asked for by groups like the Canadian Taxpayers Federation.

"I can't make an announcement today, but I can assure you that having real openness and transparency is something I'm committed to," he said.

### More snippets from Mayor Bowman's interview

- **On Christmas:** Bowman said he's ready to pamper his wife Tracy, build the backyard rink for their two sons, then settle in for the night in a onesie. "We're going to eat a lot of chocolate, we're going to make a lot of fires, we're going to wear pyjamas every day and we're going to play some hockey in the backyard."
- **On his "bromance" with Minister Kevin Chief:** "It's funny, you know, it's fine."

"Winnipeggers are increasingly, as the year unfolds, going to see a very different city hall."

In a wide-ranging interview, Bowman took questions on many subjects, including the current state

If the worst thing people can throw at me is that I'm working collaboratively with the relevant minister for the City of Winnipeg, then I think I'm not doing too bad."

- **On his office at city hall:** "We lit the Christmas tree and we let (people) in. Winnipeggers paid for this office, it's their office. I work in it on a day-to-day basis, you can't come in all the time, but I literally opened the doors."

criticism but also not heaping it on unnecessarily.

Only two months in, Bowman said he has no plans to ease up on his frenzied pace at city hall, and he vows to make his four-year mandate count.

"For me, personally, it's four years, that's the mandate that I have, and that's the mandate that I have to work with. I haven't made a decision whether I'll be on the ballot again," he said, adding his past criticism of politicians is that "far too often, they're thinking about their own political objectives."

"I have four years, I want to make it count. Whether I chose to run or not, I may not have the opportunity to serve (again). Ultimately, that's going to be up to the people of Winnipeg."

Follow Bernice Pontanilla on Twitter @MetroBee



# Ashton promises referendum on sales tax

## Change of mind.

Former transportation minister said there are solid reasons against the tax increase

A former Manitoba cabinet minister who is running to become the province's next

premier is promising to hold a referendum on whether to repeal the government's recent sales tax increase.

Steve Ashton, who resigned from cabinet Monday, said the tax hike was badly handled. The NDP government hiked the tax last year by one percentage point to eight per cent while overriding legislation that required it to hold a referen-

dum first.

As transportation minister, Ashton was one of the most passionate and vocal supporters of the tax hike. But at his leadership bid launch Tuesday, Ashton said there are solid reasons against the increase.

"Quite frankly, we've gotten the message," he said. "I've certainly gotten the message that Manitobans

wanted to have their say. We can give them their say now."

He wouldn't say how soon the tax increase could be rolled back if people vote in favour of that option in a referendum.

Ashton joins former cabinet colleague Theresa Oswald — who resigned along with four other cabinet ministers to protest Premier

Greg Selinger's leadership — in a race for the top job.

Oswald, who was also at the cabinet table when the tax increase was decided, has said she is open to repealing the tax earlier than scheduled in 2023.

Through a spokeswoman, Oswald declined to be interviewed on the idea of holding a referendum.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



**Steve Ashton**

JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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## Iconic beverage. Pic-a-Pop makes (another) comeback

A bubbly blast from Winnipeg's past is back on city grocery store shelves.

After two previous disappearing acts, Pic-a-Pop is once again back again.

"Pic-a-Pop belongs to Manitoba," said Peter de Jong, owner of Canadian Gold Beverages, which recently bought the iconic beverage company.

Born in 1971, Pic-a-Pop and its rainbow of flavours quickly became popular with thirsty Winnipeggers. The company folded in 1996 and had its first reincarnation in 2005 before going flat again a few years later.

This time, after a trial run

of 10,000 bottles sold out in just five days back in October, de Jong is confident the sugary drink is here to stay.

"I was born in the Netherlands and didn't grow up with Pic-a-Pop.... I was surprised at how popular it is," laughed de Jong over the phone from his company's offices in Marchand, Man. "Now I know."

Nine of the original Pic-a-Pop flavours are currently available at Red River Co-op grocery stores, Foodfare stores and some Winnipeg Giant Tiger locations, and soda fans can vote on which flavours they'd like to see go into production next at [picapop.com](http://picapop.com). SHANE GIBSON/METRO



Pic-a-Pop will be found on Winnipeg shelves once again. HANDOUT

### Released

#### Convicted sex offender to live in Winnipeg

A convicted sex offender was released from Headingly Correctional Institution Dec. 23, according to the Manitoba Integrated High Risk Sex Offender Unit. Winston Thomas is expected to live in Winnipeg.

Thomas, 37, is being released after serving his five-month sentence for breaching his probation terms. He didn't follow his curfew and was found by police intoxicated the

next day.

Thomas was previously charged with sexual assault in 2007 when Thomas and two other men met a 13-year-old girl at a shopping centre. They took her to a residence, gave the girl liquor and marijuana, and then prevented her from leaving. Thomas then sexually assaulted the victim and was arrested a short time later.

Once released, Thomas must follow the conditions of his probation order: no possession or consumption of alcohol, illegal or non-prescription drugs, and strict adherence to a curfew. METRO



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NE124Z114

# WRHA won't force flu shot, mask choice

COLIN  
FAST

winnipeg@metronews.ca

Forcing hospital staff to get vaccinated could provide a shot in the arm to flu-fighting efforts in Winnipeg, according to health-care experts.

Data provided by the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority shows only one-third of its staff had received flu shots through in-house clinics or mobile carts as of Dec. 10.

That's well below jurisdictions like Saskatoon (89

per cent), Vancouver (62 per cent) or New Brunswick (70 per cent) where staff have to choose between getting a needle or wearing a mask for several months.

"Our focus is on educating and building awareness with staff of (the flu shot's) benefits, and finding ways to make it as accessible and available as possible during the flu season," said a WRHA spokesperson.

But education doesn't do enough to improve patient safety, said Dr. Cory Neudorf, chief medical health officer for the Saskatoon

Health Region.

He said staff vaccination rates in Saskatoon were stalled at 70 percent, but the new provincial "immunize or mask" policy has sent them soaring.

"If you can get a high enough percentage of staff to be immunized, above 80 per cent, you can help prevent outbreaks and protect your patients," he explained.

Dr. William Ghali of the University of Calgary agreed with Neudorf, noting that research has shown lower death rates for patients in hospitals that have mandatory vaccination policies.

"We have to do everything we can to make our hospitals safer," said Ghali. "It's not enough to have voluntary programs, that higher level of obligation is the way to go."

So far this flu season there have been five outbreaks reported at Manitoba health-care facilities.

**Quoted**

**"Our focus is on educating and building awareness with staff of (the flu shot's) benefits and finding ways to make it as accessible and available as possible during the flu season."**

Winnipeg Regional Health Authority spokesperson on the organization's push to improve education and awareness about the importance of being vaccinated against the flu virus. The WRHA warns, however, that it's also critical for staff to have the influenza vaccine administered as well.

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Want to know what's open or closed? We got you covered, Winnipeg. iSTOCK

# What's open in Winnipeg?

## Open versus closed.

We've compiled the holiday hours for some of your favourite local leisure staples from across the city

You're putting your well-being (and sanity) at risk by shopping during the holidays. Why stress about whether or not something's open? We've got you covered with a list of what's open and closed in Winnipeg this holiday. Now there's no need to call 311.

### Animal Services Agency

Dec. 24: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Dec. 25 and 26: Closed  
Dec. 27: 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Dec. 28, 29, 30: noon – 5 p.m.  
Dec. 30, 31: 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Jan. 1: Closed  
Jan. 2: 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.

### Brady Road Landfill

Dec. 25: Closed  
Dec. 26, 27: Open with extended hours 5:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Jan. 1: Closed  
Jan. 3: Open with extended hours 5:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.

### Winnipeg Cemeteries

Open daily for visitors from 7 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Brookside, St. Vital and Transcona cemeteries office hours:  
Dec. 24: Open until 3:30 p.m.  
Dec. 25 and 26: Closed  
Jan. 1: Closed

### City of Winnipeg Pools

Dec. 24: Open until noon  
Dec. 25 and 26: Closed  
Dec. 31: Open until 4 p.m.  
Jan. 1: Closed

### Garbage, Recycling Pickup

Dec. 25 and Jan. 1: No collection. Collection dates will be pushed back one day later as follows:  
Dec. 25, Dec. 26  
Dec. 26, Dec. 27  
Jan. 1, Jan. 2  
Jan. 2, Jan. 3  
There are no changes to Saturday collection schedules

### City of Winnipeg Leisure Centres

Dec. 24: Closed at noon  
(Exception: St. James Civic Centre open until 4:30 p.m.)  
Dec. 25, 26: Closed  
Dec. 31: Closed (Exceptions: Fort Rouge Leisure Centre and St. James Civic Centre open from 6 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)  
Jan. 1: Closed

### Libraries

Dec. 24: Charleswood, Henderson, Louis Riel, Millennium, Pembina Trail, River Heights, St. Boniface, Sir William Stephenson, St. James-Assiniboia, St. Vital, West Kildonan and Westwood Libraries open from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. All remaining libraries are closed.

Dec. 25: Closed  
Dec. 26: Closed  
Dec. 31: Open until 5 p.m.  
Jan. 1: Closed

### Liquor Marts

Dec. 24: Open 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Dec. 25: Closed  
Dec. 26: Open 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Dec. 27: 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Dec. 28: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Dec. 29 and 30: 8 a.m. – 11 p.m. (Exceptions: Cityplace, Hargrave and Ellice and Main and Pritchard all close at 10 p.m.)  
Dec. 31: 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.  
(Exceptions: Airport Express, Gateway Express and Pembina Village Express all close at 6 p.m.)  
Jan. 1: Closed

### Malls (Grant Park Shopping Centre, Kildonan Place, Polo Park Shopping Centre and St. Vital Shopping Centre)

Dec. 24: Grant Park open 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Polo Park and Kildonan Place open 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.; St. Vital open 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Dec. 25: All closed  
Dec. 26: 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. (Exception Grant Park open 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.)  
Dec. 31: All open 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

### Jan. 1: All closed

### Winnipeg Transit

Regular hours with the exceptions of:

Dec. 25: Sunday hours  
Dec. 26: Sunday hours  
Dec. 31: Free ridership starting at 7 p.m. to the end of service at 1:38 a.m. Jan. 1.  
Jan. 1: Sunday hours

SAMANTHA SAMSON AND EVAN MATTHEWS/FOR METRO



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204 480-1003

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204 254-3285 – Kiosk

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# Magnotta guilty: Jury

**Life imprisonment.** Luka Rocco Magnotta was convicted of four other non-murder charges

Luka Rocco Magnotta remained impassive as one of the 12 jurors who deliberated his fate uttered the word "guilty" to all five charges against him in the slaying and dismemberment of Jun Lin, including first-degree murder.

Magnotta was later sentenced to life imprisonment on the murder charge, with no chance of applying for parole for 25 years.

On the four non-murder charges, the native of Scarborough, Ont., was given the maximum terms allowed under the Criminal Code, ranging from two to 10 years. The sentences are concurrent.

His lawyer, Luc Leclair, told reporters his client was "disappointed" but "relieved."

Crown prosecutor Louis Bouthillier said he was fully expecting the jury to deliver the five guilty verdicts.

The other charges Magnotta was convicted of were criminally harassing Prime Minister Stephen Harper and other members of Parliament; mailing obscene and indecent material; committing an indignity to a body; and publishing obscene materials.

Magnotta was seeking to be

Jun Lin

## 'A lifetime of hope' lost

The prosecution described Jun Lin as the perfect victim, a man without local family or friends to take notice when he walked into Luka Rocco Magnotta's apartment, never to walk out again.

"His (Jun Lin's) mother, his sister and me, his friends ... in one night, we lost a lifetime of hope, our futures, parts of our past," read a victim impact statement filed on behalf of Lin's father, Diran.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

found not criminally responsible in the May 2012 slaying by way of mental disorder, with experts testifying he was in a psychotic state the night of the killing and couldn't tell right from wrong.

The Crown countered the crime was both planned and deliberate and that Magnotta's behaviour and actions went against someone supposedly suffering from a disease of the mind.

As Magnotta had admitted to the physical acts, the jury's task was to determine his state of mind at the time.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



## Marking a century since Christmas truce

The Parliament Buildings in Ottawa are shown with Christmas lights on Monday. Dr. Andrea McCrady, the Dominion Carillonneur, will be among 11 countries' carillonneurs playing Silent Night on Dec. 24 to mark the 100th anniversary of the Christmas truce during the First World War. FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Fond-du-Lac Mountie facing child porn charges

A Mountie posted in a remote fly-in community in northern Saskatchewan has been charged with accessing and possessing child pornography.

RCMP said they began investigating the officer stationed in Fond-du-Lac in September.

Staff Sgt. Ron Weir of the province's Internet Exploitation Unit said officers had been

conducting an internal police investigation into file-sharing and were tracing IP addresses when they identified the fellow Mountie as a suspect.

Const. Aiden Arthur Pratchett, 31, joined the force in 2010 and served in the town of Porcupine Plain before he was transferred to Fond-du-Lac.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Court. Sexual assault suit against Furlong dropped

A woman who filed a lawsuit alleging former Olympic CEO John Furlong sexually abused her while he was a teacher in Burns Lake, B.C., has dropped the court action.

Beverly Abraham's lawsuit against Furlong was dismissed in B.C. Supreme Court on Friday with no costs to either party, after she asked the court

to allow her to withdraw the suit. Abraham says three of her family members have died recently, and she couldn't handle the stress of the lawsuit on top of her grief.

A statement from Furlong's lawyer said he has always maintained the allegations from Abraham and two other accusers are false. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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## The Interview release back on for Xmas

A large poster advertising the movie *The Interview* hangs on the back wall of the Alamo Drafthouse Cinema Tuesday in Houston. Sony Pictures Entertainment announced Tuesday a limited theatrical release of *The Interview* in the U.S. beginning Thursday, putting back into the theatres the comedy that prompted an international incident with North Korea and outrage over its cancelled release. PAT SULLIVAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# U.S. might lift ban on gay blood donors

### 31-year-old policy.

FDA favours new policy barring donations from men who have had gay sex in the previous year

U.S. health officials are recommending an end to America's lifetime ban on blood donations from gay and bisexual men, a 31-year-old policy that many medical groups and gay activists say is no longer justified.

The Food and Drug Administration said Tuesday it favours replacing the blanket ban with a new policy barring donations from men who have had gay sex in the previous year. FDA officials said that policy is supported by research and would put the U.S. in line with other countries including Australia, Japan and Britain.

The lifetime ban dates from the early years of the AIDS crisis and was intended to protect the

blood supply from what was a then little-understood disease. But many medical groups, including the American Medical Association, say the policy is no longer supported by science, given advances in HIV testing. Gay activists say the lifetime ban is discriminatory and perpetuates negative stereotypes of homosexual men.

The agency will recommend the switch in draft guidelines early next year and move to finalize them after taking comments from the public, said FDA Director Dr. Peter Parks declined to give a time frame for completing the process but said, "we commit to working as quickly as possible on this issue."

All blood donations are screened for HIV; however, the test only detects the virus after it's been in the bloodstream about 10 days. That allows a brief window when the virus that causes AIDS can go undetected. According to government figures, men who have had sex with other men repre-

sent about two per cent of the U.S. population, yet account for at least 62 per cent of all new HIV infections in the U.S.

Tuesday's announcement is the culmination of years of government discussions re-examining the ban. Last month a panel of blood safety experts convened by Department of Health and Human Services voted 16-2 in favour of doing away with the lifetime ban. The panel recommended moving to a one-year ban, which bars donors who have had male-on-male sex during the previous 12 months.

Some gay activists said Tuesday that policy remains unrealistic and will still stigmatize gay and bisexual men.

"Some may believe this is a step forward, but in reality, requiring celibacy for a year is a de facto lifetime ban," the organization Gay Men's Health Crisis, a New York-based nonprofit that supports AIDS prevention and care, said after the announcement.

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## Potentially lethal

## FDA sounds off on caffeine powder

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is building a legal case against companies that sell pure powdered caffeine, attractive to teens for its perceived energy boost. Even a teaspoon of the powder can be lethal — it is equivalent to 25 cups of coffee. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Burn injury reports

## Keurig recalling 7M coffee makers

Keurig is recalling seven million single-serve coffee brewing machines sold in the United States and Canada between 2009 and last July because of reports of burn injuries. Keurig says its Mini Plus Brewing Systems can overheat and spray water during brewing. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

# Experts bet on Boxing Day

## Black Friday's impact.

Despite deals in November, Canadians still expected to seek post-Christmas sales

## Shopping plans

An online survey commissioned by cash-back shopping site Ebates.ca found that about 40 per cent of Canadians plan to shop on Boxing Day.

- Most shoppers were planning to buy clothing (69 per cent) followed by electronics (63 per cent), said general manager Adrienne Down Coulson.

- When the same question was posed about Black Friday and Cyber Monday in November, the categories were reversed.

Boxing Day has traditionally been a bonanza for bargain hunters, but will earlier Black Friday promotions put a dent in post-Christmas sales in Canada?

Ian Lee, assistant professor with the Sprott School of Business at Ottawa's Carleton University, said while the Black Friday phenomenon has extended the holiday shopping season until the week of Boxing Day, it is not generating net new sales.

"As they introduce and extend these sales, people become more cynical.... I think consumers understand intuitively the Boxing Day week sales are going to be better deals," he said.

Some retailers are already getting a jump on offering end-of-year bargains. Amazon.ca announced plans to feature new Boxing Day deals daily beginning Tuesday until Dec. 29, while Best Buy will launch its Boxing Day sale online on Christmas Eve.

Adrienne Down Coulson,

general manager of cash-back shopping site Ebates.ca, said while participating in Black Friday and Cyber Monday promotions is "much less optional" for Canadian companies today, she doesn't foresee a huge impact on Boxing Day.

"Boxing Day is still one of the biggest shopping days, if not the biggest shopping day, in Canada. So as a retailer, they've got to be aggressive if they're going to compete," she said.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS, WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Until January 2, 2015, receive 0% APR purchase financing on any 2015 F-150 model for up to 5 months, 2014 F-150 models for up to 60 months, and 2014 Focus, C-MAX, E-150, Edge, Flex, Taurus and Fusion models for up to 72 months to qualify retail customers, on approved credit. (0%) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest interest rate. Example: \$35,000 purchase finance at 0% APR for 36/60/72 months, monthly payment is \$944.44, \$24,656.00 (\$422,000) of bonusing at 0% APR and total to be repaid is \$53,500. 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## VOICES

# TIME TO END CHILD POVERTY

Activist brothers Craig and Marc Kielburger explain that while Canada is a more prosperous country now than ever before, poverty levels have also never been higher

The number of Canadian children who depend on food banks every month could fill 6,200 school buses. And we would need a line of buses stretching almost 300 kilometres long for all the children in this country who live in poverty. Those are staggering figures in a country as wealthy as ours.

Every child on those buses has a different story. There's a boy whose single mother works two jobs, struggling just to pay the bills in East Vancouver. A child of an immigrant family in Toronto's Regent Park, who came here with nothing. A girl on the Attawapiskat First Nations reserve in northern Ontario, living in a tiny house with no heat or clean water, and who only just got a proper school this year.

The rate of child poverty in Canada has in-

creased since 1989 when our federal government voted unanimously to wipe it out by 2000. Twenty-five years later, more than 1.3 million Canadian children live below the poverty line.

The number of Canadians who rely on food banks grows every year. Almost 100 First Nations communities face drinking water advisories, and as many as 48 communities still lack a school. In the north, we've seen three families crammed into a small house, sleeping shoulder to shoulder on the floor. The same is often true of new immigrant families who arrive in our urban centres and share tiny apartments.

Our country has seen extraordinary economic growth, and at the same time deepening inequality.

If we believe every Canadian child deserves

the same fair chance to thrive, we need to ask how we give them that.

From Ecuador to India, in our international work we find that fighting child poverty is mostly about meeting families' most basic needs like food, clean water and education. Those challenges exist here. But in Canada, the problem is more complex than simply building a school, or putting food on the table.

In part, it's about empowering people to change their own lives.

Given the opportunity and the tools, young Canadians in low-income communities have an incredible capacity to make positive change—for themselves, their families and their neighbours. We've learned that working with youth in urban neighbourhoods like Toronto's Regent

Park, and with aboriginal youth in our Sacred Circle program. When young Canadians in these communities take on a service project—tackling issues like drug abuse or youth suicide—in the process of helping others they help themselves. Still, as Canadians we need to ask ourselves, what kind of country do we want to live in? Do we want a Canada where every child has the opportunity to succeed? If so, it's time to come up with a plan that will fulfil the promise we made 25 years ago to end child poverty.

*Brothers Craig and Marc Kielburger founded a platform for social change that includes the international charity Free The Children, the social enterprise Me to We and the youth empowerment movement We Day.*

We asked you:

## What's the nicest thing a stranger has ever done for you?\*

Just in time for Christmas, we asked people from around the country to share their stories of random acts of kindness:



**Andrea Juby,  
Vancouver**

While I was looking for a new apartment this fall, my current building manager—who was a stranger to me at the time—offered to hold a beautiful light-filled studio for a whole month until I was ready to move in. She said, "We don't want to bankrupt you before Christmas!" I walked away on air, I was so moved. That immense kindness created a real sense of home for me. I am so grateful to her and I look forward to my opportunity to pay that kindness forward.



**Ena Goquiolay,  
Calgary**

When my family and I migrated to Canada in 2001, we didn't know anybody. A newly immigrated Filipino family, who my parents only knew by referral from mutual friends back home, picked us up from the airport and offered us a room in their small apartment until my parents could find a basement to rent. They drove us to government offices and garage sales. Their kids lent us their toys and showed us around the neighbourhood. Fourteen years later, we consider these once strangers part of our family.



**Brittney Skrypec,  
Winnipeg**

I went to (a coffee shop) to get gift cards for work, and the barista asked me if I was getting anything. I said no and she told me not to worry about it. "It's on us," she said. I'm glad I got it for free, it was so nice of her! Now every time I see her, I think of that time she made my day.



**Renata Tracy,  
Toronto \***

Someone — their name was Aris — once rode their bike from Montreal to Toronto to see me for one day.

*Editor's note: Aris was not a stranger to Renata. That probably would have been creepy. There was a misunderstanding in Toronto about which question to ask, but this answer was so nice we thought we'd use it anyway :)*



**Stephen Freedman,  
Ottawa**

I asked a stranger for help once when my phone died. He was kind enough to let me use my phone to call my mom. She was supposed to pick me up and I was supposed to tell her where. I was downtown. There would have been a lot of confusion if I didn't call.



**Qian Giang,  
Halifax**

I crossed Spring Garden and just lost my (wallet) and another person helped me pick up my (wallet) and return to me.

Gossip

**NED EHRBAR****METRO'S TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES**

Amy Adams GETTY IMAGES

## Amy Adams on the outs with Today over Sony scandal

It was just supposed to be a simple morning talk-show appearance for Amy Adams to promote her latest film, *Big Eyes*, and do a victory lap after her impressive Saturday Night Live hosting duty, but instead we have yet another repercussion of the Sony hacking scandal.

Adams was reportedly in the Today show green room, ready to go on the air, when she was told she would be asked to comment on the

Sony scandal. "Amy said she didn't want to contribute to the media coverage of it ... then she was abruptly told that her interview with Today was cancelled. She was shocked and upset," a source tells *Page Six*.

Another source, though, saw her as a bit more than "shocked and upset," claiming that Adams "was angry and acting belligerent, she was yelling at Today producers and reduced a young female staffer

to tears." Guess she did learn a thing or two from working with David O. Russell after all.

Probably the most entertaining part of all of this is the NBC spokesperson's statement explaining that "as a news program, the Today show doesn't allow guests to put restrictions on interviews."

Oh man. First of all, that's total bull. And second of all, it's so cute that you think of yourself as a news program. Adorable.

## Berlin fest won't let Fifty Shades wear out welcome

In a move that kind of makes Germany's prestigious Berlinale seem kind of desperate, *Fifty Shades of Grey* will be celebrating its international premiere at the 65th annual edition of the film festival, programmers announced this week. The press release even goes so far as to call the roles of Christian Grey (Jamie Dornan) and Anastasia Steel (Dakota Johnson) "iconic."

Guys, come on. This is soft-core S&M porn originally written as fan fiction for *Twilight*, an already pretty terrible book series.

The festival also announced they'll be screening the film only once, meaning either they're really trying to build up excitement around it or they're secretly embarrassed about screening it at all. I'm going with the latter.



Jamie Dornan GETTY IMAGES



Dakota Johnson GETTY IMAGES

## Frozen freezes out Swiftie for top entertainer spot

If you have children, or know someone who does, or just listened to one recently, the choice of Associated Press Entertainer of the Year won't come as much of a shock: It's *Frozen*, and in 2014, we just couldn't let it go.

Although the animated film opened late in 2013, the story of Elsa, Anna, Olaf, Kristoff

and Sven easily outpaced other vote-getters like Sherlock star Benedict Cumberbatch, TV guru Shonda Rimes, musicians Beyoncé and Pharrell Williams, and even an entry for the culture's fixation on the female rear. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Frozen's Elsa and Anna  
CONTRIBUTED

**Happy Holidays**  
from  
**ENERGY 106**

**Energy106.ca**

## In theatres Christmas Day

Mystery & Suspense



### The Imitation Game

Director: Morten Tyldum

Stars: Benedict Cumberbatch, Keira Knightley

During the winter of 1952, British authorities entered the home of mathematician, cryptanalyst and war hero Alan Turing to investigate a burglary. They ended up arresting Turing on charges of 'gross indecency', that would lead to his conviction of homosexuality — little did officials know they were incriminating the pioneer of computing.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 86% Audience:



Kids/Family



### Into the Woods

Director: Sean Anders

Stars: Meryl Streep, Emily Blunt, James Corden

Into the Woods is a modern twist on several of the beloved Brothers Grimm fairy tales, intertwining the plots of a few choice stories and exploring the consequences of the characters' wishes and quests. This humorous and heartfelt musical follows the classic tales of Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk, and Rapunzel.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 71% Audience:



Drama



### Big Eyes

Director: Tim Burton

Stars: Amy Adams, Christoph Waltz

Directed and produced by Tim Burton, Big Eyes is based on the true story of Walter Keane (Christoph Waltz), who was one of the most successful painters of the 1950s and early 1960s. The artist earned staggering notoriety by revolutionizing the commercialization and accessibility of popular art with his enigmatic paintings of waifs with big eyes.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 72% Audience:



Drama



### Unbroken

Director: Angelina Jolie

Stars: Jack O'Connell, Domhnall Gleeson

Academy Award winner Angelina Jolie directs and produces Unbroken, following the incredible life of Olympian and war hero Louis "Louie" Zamperini (Jack O'Connell) who, along with two other crewmen, survived in a raft for 47 days after a near-fatal plane crash in the Second World War, only to be caught by the Japanese Navy and sent to a prisoner-of-war camp.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 48% Audience:



Drama



### Wild

Director: Jean-Marc Vallee

Stars: Reese Witherspoon, Kevin Rankin

With the dissolution of her marriage and the death of her mother, Cheryl Strayed has lost all hope. After years of reckless, destructive behaviour, she makes a rash decision. With absolutely no experience, driven only by sheer determination, Cheryl hikes more than a thousand miles of the Pacific Crest Trail, alone.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 88% Audience:



Mystery/Drama



### The Gambler

Director: Rupert Wyatt

Stars: Mark Wahlberg

Jim Bennett (Mark Wahlberg) is a risk taker. Both an English professor and a high-stakes gambler, Bennett bets it all when he borrows from a gangster (Michael Kenneth Williams) and offers his own life as collateral. Always one step ahead, Bennett pits his creditor against the operator of a gambling ring (Alvin Ing) and leaves his dysfunctional relationship with his wealthy mother.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score

Critics: 62% Audience:



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# 3

**How-to****Use travel time wisely**

1. Use travel time to relax, not to work. Power down and give your brain a break.
2. Load your iPad with that documentary you've been meaning to watch or that video tutorial you haven't had time to wrap your head around.
3. Review a language app of the foreign country you're heading to (quietly, of course). Even 10 simple words and phrases can go a long way — and two of them had better be "please" and "thank you."
4. Is the flight attendant/tour guide handing out local newspapers? Brush up on the news of the day at your destination, so you'll have something to add to the local chit-chat.
5. Never forget this all-important travel rule, whether you're on a plane, train or bus: Sleep when you can.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

**New****Westin facelift at Tremblant**

Calling all ski bums: Le Westin Resort & Spa, Tremblant, Que., has recently completed a major reno. All 122 guest rooms have been redone, as has the more than 4,000 square feet of meeting space, the lobby and the front desk, spruced up with a living green wall. Expect natural wood details, earthy colours, warm fabrics and lots of big, big windows. Recharge the batteries, then hit the slopes — and repeat. Visit StarwoodHotels.com.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO

**Deal****Escape to Portugal**

Beat the winter blahs by heading to the Algarve. Gateways International is offering 14 days in Albufeira, Portugal, including hotel and airfare from Toronto, from \$1,775 (taxes included) for travel between Jan. 1 and March 31. Because this deal is based on availability, you can get a little more flexibility with dates, and with airfare being the bulk of the cost, you could stay an extra week for peanuts if you wanted to. Call 800-268-0900.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO



# The hot destinations of 2015

**Make a list.** Here's a rundown of accessible and fascinating trips to plan next year

See Cuba before it changes. Check out the World Expo in Milan. And if you're heading to New York City to see the view from One World Trade Center's observatory (scheduled to open late spring), take the subway to Queens and see if you can figure out why it topped Lonely Planet's "best in the U.S." destinations for 2015.

**Europe**

The Milan Expo opens in May for six months and is expected to draw 20 million visitors. The Expo is the modern incarnation of the old World's Fairs that thrilled 19th- and 20th-century guests with new products and technology.

The theme of the Milan Expo is food and nutrition, and dozens of countries are participating. The U.S. will do its part by sending six authentic food trucks to Italy featuring regional American and ethnic fusion menus. Milan's famous opera house, La Scala, normally closed in the summer, will host performances daily during the Expo.

**Anniversaries**

Singapore celebrates its golden Jubilee — 50 years of independence from Great Britain. Vietnam celebrates 70 years since achieving independence from France, and 50 years since the first U.S. combat troops arrived at Da Nang, which some historians say marked the start of the Vietnam War — even though Americans had been sent to the country in prior years.



The One World Trade observatory is expected to open in late spring 2015. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A number of U.S. museums and historic sites will be hosting exhibits and events to mark 150 years since the assassination of Abraham Lincoln and the end of the Civil War.

The new year also marks 70 years since the end of Second World War — both the defeat of Nazi Germany and the atomic bombing of Japan that ended the war in Asia. Hiroshima and Nagasaki are planning memorial services on the August anniversaries of the bombings, along with numerous arts projects and peace-themed events throughout the year.

In New Orleans, Aug. 29 will be the 10-year anniversary of the devastation of hurricane Katrina. "Come see the new New Orleans" is the tourist industry mantra for showcasing trendy emerging neighbourhoods and a vibrant restaurant scene.

South Dakota expects crowds for the 50th Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup in September and the 75th



Head over to South Dakota for the Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup in September. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sturgis Motorcycle Rally in August.

**Cuba**

The news that the U.S. intends to normalize relations with Cuba could lead to a rush of travellers hoping to experience the island before it loses its frozen-in-time culture to an onslaught of U.S. chain stores, hotels and tourists. But don't pack your bags

just yet: For the near future, the only way you can legally visit Cuba as an American citizen is to take a "people to people" cultural exchange tour licensed by the U.S. government. The tours are expensive and itineraries are limited.

**Theme Parks**

Universal Studios Hollywood debuts two new attractions in

**New York City**

Two big openings take place in the Big Apple in 2015: the observatory at One World Trade in late spring and the new Whitney Museum of American Art in May in Manhattan's Meatpacking District near the High Line and the Hudson River. The city also got a Christmas gift from Lonely Planet, which named the borough of Queens as a "best in the U.S." destination. Manhattan has been giving ground to trendy Brooklyn in recent years, but the elevation of Queens as the next big thing was a bit of a surprise. Not that New Yorkers and tourists alike don't love Queens attractions like the 1964 World's Fair grounds, the hipster beach scene in the Rockaways, Chinatown in Flushing, the Asian and Latin American ethnic mix in Jackson Heights and the emerging industrial-chic ambience of Long Island City. But the borough is not quite on tourist radars yet — though the Lonely Planet pronouncement may change that.

2015: Springfield, an immersive area opening in spring surrounding The Simpsons Ride, and Fast & Furious — Supercharged, a thrill ride opening in summer based on the film series.

Disneyland opens Frozen Fun in January in Anaheim, Calif., with a singalong, Olaf's Snow Fest, and meet-and-greets with Anna and Elsa, among other attractions. The California theme park also celebrates its 60th anniversary this year, with celebration details to be revealed at the end of January.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# How to stop being afraid of the followup

**Career.** They've said they'd be in touch, but should you give them a shout in the meantime?

LAUREN MARINIGH  
TalentEgg.ca

Knowing how to follow up after an interview can be key to determining if you progress on to the next step in the hiring process.

If you're not the most assertive person, you may be afraid to reach out post-interview. Here are some important steps to follow that can help make the process less intimidating.

#### Organize details

Often job descriptions will outline how or if they would like you to follow up.

Some jobs will state that only qualified applicants will be contacted, and will strictly outline not to follow up. Make sure you make note of these things as you are sending out

#### Send the right message

Not knowing what to share in a followup message is a common reason for opting out.

- Don't overthink it. If you're following up on an application, keep your message brief and inquire politely about the opportunity you've applied to. Reiterate your interest and ask if there have been any new developments in the hiring process.
- If you're following up on an interview, it's OK to go into more detail. Make sure to share that you appreciated the opportunity to connect, and bring up a few key discussion topics. Close by adding that you look forward to hearing about the hiring process soon.

applications.

Once you have sent out a followup, make sure to make note of a response you receive. This will be crucial in knowing when to follow up again, or knowing the job status. There is nothing worse than following up when you've already heard that a position is closed.

#### Follow up with the appropriate person

Just as when you apply for a

job, it's important that your followup be directed to the right person.

If you applied to a general HR email, you can try following up to that email, but chances are you won't hear back.

Try to find the person in charge of hiring for that particular position.

If you apply via LinkedIn, often you will be able to see who posted the job, and that will help identify the right per-

son with whom to follow up.

#### Know the platform

How should you be following up?

If a position specifically states "No phone calls," follow up with an email.

Email is generally a safer and less invasive bet anyway, as it allows for the hiring manager to reply back in their own time — and avoids creating an awkward situation.

You don't want to catch someone off guard, or annoy them by not following instructions that were clearly laid out in the first place.

If you have a more casual relationship with someone involved in the hiring process (but not the key decision-maker), you may want to consider using a social media platform (like Twitter) to touch base.

#### Let it be and give it time

There is a fine line between following up and annoying human resources by being too persistent.

You'll definitely be contacted if you are a promising



Refreshing your inbox repeatedly is only going to result in frustration. If the position is taken down and you still haven't heard back after a few weeks, it's safe to say they are not interested. iSTOCK

candidate, so imagine your followup as simply a confirmation of interest and an opportunity to (hopefully) gain more information about your application status in the process.

If you don't hear back from the hiring manager, don't take it personally.

While you may be disappointed that your carefully-crafted application didn't get a response, letting go of your disappointment is the only way to move forward.

# It's beginning to look a lot like the work blahs



OFFICE SPACE  
Eleni Deacon  
life@metronews.ca

Dear Metro,

I get extremely sluggish in the winter. It's so hard to get up in the morning—and even once I'm awake, I still feel like I'm asleep. Everything is just so blah. How can I stay focused at work when all I want to do is crawl under a blanket?

— Want 2 Hibernate

Dear W2H,

If only we could eat a bunch of acorns, then curl up in a cute little ball and nap until April. But humans aren't chipmunks. Even in 20-below weather, we've got to haul our tails to work.

Although you want to park yourself under an afghan, don't. Physical activity—even a little bit each day—can radically energize your system. To stay positive at



It's hard to stay happy when the weather is at its worst, but there are ways to curb your curmudgeonliness. iSTOCK

work, set a few manageable professional resolutions that will boost your performance without stirring up oh-no-I'm-flunking-my-resolutions anxiety. And give yourself something fun to look forward to on a daily basis.

It could be something big, like a vacation. Or something small, like fancy crackers in your lunch.

Winter slowdown is nor-

mal, but if your blahs run really blue, consider seeking treatment for Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD).

Health-care professionals can advise on ways to make the dreary months less dark, both at work and in your off-hours.

The weather outside may be frightful, but the next few months don't have to be totally awful.

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# Bacon the icing on baked apple pancake

## Christmas brunch.

Bacon-apple upside-down pancake delivers a crowd-pleasing salty caramelized crunch

Like Thanksgiving, Christmas is one of those holidays that requires aroma.

On Thanksgiving, we need the house to smell of turkey and stuffing and sweet potatoes. On Christmas, we need whiffs of indulgent breakfast items, like cinnamon rolls or a bubbling fruit crisp. Or maybe you prefer hash browns and bacon. Those get the job done nicely, too.

This year combine sweet and savoury with this baked pancake inspired by an upside-down cake. For ease, it can partially prepped the night before. To do that, just make the batter as directed in a blender, then refrigerate it overnight in the blender carafe. In the morning, just give it a quick whir to freshen it, then you're ready to assemble the pancake.

And that's when things get good. You start by frying bacon in a skillet. Once the bacon is crisp, you top it with a layer of thinly sliced apples. Give those a couple minutes to soften, then you add a hefty sprinkle of brown sugar and cinnamon. Finally, you pour on the batter and pop the whole thing in the oven to finish.

When it's done, you overturn the pancake onto a serving platter and cut it into wedges. You may not need to, but there's no harm in dousing the whole thing with maple syrup.

**1.** Heat the oven to 375 F.

**2.** In a blender, combine the



**This recipe serves 4.** MATTHEW MEAD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

milk, egg, oil and vanilla. Blend until smooth.

**3.** With the blender running on low, sprinkle in the flour, sugar, baking powder and 1/2 teaspoon salt. Stop blending as soon as the mixture is smooth. Set aside.

**4.** Use an apple corer or melon baller to core the apple, but leave the fruit intact. Set the apple on its side, then cut it into thin round slices. Set aside.

**5.** Heat a large oven-safe skillet over medium. Add the bacon and cook for 6 to 7 minutes on one side. Spoon out and discard about half of the fat in the pan, then turn the bacon strips to cook on the other side, laying them flat and evenly over the bottom of the pan.

**6.** Top the bacon with the apple slices, arranging them evenly. Cover the pan and cook for 2 minutes.

**7.** Mix together the brown sugar, cinnamon and a pinch of salt, then sprinkle the mixture over the apples.

**8.** Carefully and evenly pour the pancake batter over the apples and bacon. Place the skillet in the oven and bake until lightly browned and cooked through, about 20 minutes.

**9.** Let the pancake cool for 5 minutes. Use a paring knife to loosen the edges of

## Ingredients

- 3/4 cup whole milk
- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon canola or vegetable oil
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- Kosher salt
- 8 strips bacon
- 1/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

the pancake, then overturn a large serving plate over the skillet. Invert the skillet to release the pancake onto the plate. Cut into wedges.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



**Sweet Potato and Salmon Hash Bake serves 8.** MATTHEW MEAD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Nestle salmon and eggs in sweet potato hash

**1.** Heat the oven to 400 F. Coat a 3- to 4-quart casserole dish with cooking spray.

## Ingredients

- 6 tablespoons (3/4 stick) unsalted butter
- 1 medium yellow onion, diced
- 2 large sweet potatoes, peeled
- 4 medium Yukon gold potatoes
- 1 cup diced roasted red peppers
- 2 tablespoons roughly chopped capers
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh thyme
- Kosher salt and ground black pepper
- 8 ounces smoked salmon
- Sour cream or 8 poached eggs (optional)
- Lemon zest, to serve
- Chopped fresh chives, to serve
- Caviar (optional)

to 8 minutes, or until tender and starting to brown.

**3.** Meanwhile, in a large bowl, grate the sweet potatoes and Yukon gold potatoes. Alternatively, use the medium grating disc on a food processor to shred the potatoes. Either way, grasp the shredded potatoes a handful at a time to squeeze and discard as much liquid as possible, returning the potatoes to the bowl.

**4.** To the potatoes, add the onion-butter mixture, roasted

red pepper, capers, thyme and a 1/2 teaspoon each of salt and black pepper. Spoon the mixture into the prepared casserole dish. Bake for 50 minutes, or until the potatoes are tender and the top is golden brown.

**5.** Top the hash with slices of smoked salmon and either dollops of sour cream or poached eggs, if using. Grate fresh lemon zest over the top, then sprinkle with black pepper and chopped chives. Top with caviar, if desired.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

NFL

## Chargers' Rivers delivers good news

Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers practised Tuesday and said he's not feeling the effects of back and rib injuries.

Rivers said others in the locker room are feeling more pain than he is, and then added: "I have nothing right now hurting at all."

Rivers declined to confirm or deny reports he has a bulging disc in his back. He's been listed on the injury report as having back and chest injuries.

Rivers sat out two practices last week and then led a dramatic comeback in a 38-35 overtime victory at San Francisco on Saturday night.

The Chargers (9-6) need to win at Kansas City on Sunday to clinch a wild-card berth.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the hot seat



"I don't look at myself as a three-win coach. I know I'm better than that, yet this is where we're at right now."

New York Jets head coach Rex Ryan still carries confidence despite a poor season.

NBA

## T-Wolves burned by Love again

Kevin Love scored 20 points in his first game against Minnesota, Kyrie Irving added 29 and the Cleveland Cavaliers pulled away in the second half for a 125-104 victory over the Timberwolves on Tuesday night.

The Timberwolves' Canadian rookie Andrew Wiggins scored 27 against the team that drafted him then traded him for Love. It was the T-Wolves' sixth straight loss.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB salaries

## \$3.8M

The Major League Baseball Players Association said Tuesday the average salary was \$3,818,923, up from \$3,386,212 last year. The 12.78 per cent hike was the biggest since a 12.83 per cent rise from 2000 to 2001.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## Jets encouragingly Grinch-like toward Blackhawks

Winnipeg Jets centre Mathieu Perreault, celebrates after scoring on Blackhawks goalie Corey Crawford in the first period on Tuesday night in Chicago. Perreault added a power-play goal in the second period as the Jets' routed the Western Conference's best team 5-1. CHARLES REX ARBOGAST/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# 4 SPORTS

# Canada's juniors find holes in Swiss' game

**World juniors.** Domi strikes thrice in final tune up before real games begin

Max Domi scored a hat trick to lead Canada to a 6-0 victory over Switzerland on Tuesday in the final pre-tournament game before the start of the junior world championship.

Domi scored twice in 13 seconds in the second period before completing his hat trick midway through the third. Brayden Point, Jake Virtanen and Nick Ritchie also scored for Canada, which went 2-0-1 in its three exhibition matches.

Goalie Zach Fucale made 14 saves for the shutout.

Netminder Ludovic Waeber stopped 37 of 43 shots for Switzerland, which finished 0-2-0 in its exhibition games.

The 11-day world junior



Team Canada's Shea Theodore flattens Switzerland's Timo Meier during Tuesday night's exhibition game in Montreal. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

event, which takes place in Toronto and Montreal, opens on Boxing Day.

Canada outscored its opponents 12-4 through three pre-tournament tune-up games.

With Canada already up 1-0, Domi scored his first of the evening on the power play

at 15:46 of the second period. The Swiss defencemen gave Domi far too much time with the puck, as the 19-year-old skated towards the net with ease and found an opening between Waeber's pads.

With the Bell Centre public address announcer still belting out the details of

Domi's goal, the Arizona Coyotes prospect quickly made it 3-0 for Canada as he deflected home a pass from Montreal-born Anthony Duclair.

Canada scored a fourth goal 40 seconds after that — its third in 53 seconds.

Domi, son of retired NHLer Tie Domi, scored his third of the evening at 8:16 of the third period with a sharp wrist shot from the face-off circle.

Getting the start in Canada's final exhibition game means Fucale will likely get the nod over backup goaltender Eric Comrie when Canada's tournament officially gets underway versus Slovakia on Dec. 26.

Fucal had little to do against the Swiss in the first period, as the Laval, Que. native faced only two shots in the opening 20 minutes.

Canada flexed its muscles from the get-go — and hardly let up — outshooting Switzerland 14-2 after the first period. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# DRIVE 5

18

DRIVE

metronews.ca  
Wednesday, December 24, 2014

## 2015 Mazda MX-5

- Type.** Two-door, rear-wheel-drive compact sports car
- Engine.** 2.0-litre inline four cylinder (167 hp)
- Transmissions.** Six-speed manual or automatic
- Price.** \$29,450 base (GX), \$42,720 as-tested (anniversary edition)

## Market position

Debut in 1989 and continues to stick to original script of providing the most fun-to-drive roadster for the money. The Miata/MX-5 is the best-selling two-seat sports car in history and now has no direct competitors. It is a spiritual successor to traditional low-cost British roadsters, such as the MGB and TR6.

## Points

- 2015 Anniversary Edition the last iteration of current generation. An all-new MX-5 is due out next year.
- The U.S. and Canada each received only 100 copies of the Anniversary Edition, which sold out quickly.
- The only exterior colour combination is Soul Red Mica/Brilliant Black — the latter for the retractable hardtop.



The power hardtop roof is slick, but the manual top is easy to use.

## Safety features

Stability and traction control, four-wheel disc brakes with anti-lock and electronic brake force distribution, limited slip differential, anti-theft alarm, engine immobilizer, theft deterrent, front and side airbags, seat-belt pretensioners with force limiter, side impact door beams, fog lights, Xenon headlights.

# Just don't mess with success

PHOTOS: MIKE GOETZ



## Compare



**1** **BMW Z4**  
Base price: \$56,395  
Good looking and powerful, but not visceral.



**2** **Porsche Boxster**  
Base price: \$59,685  
Good looking and powerful, and very visceral.



**3** **Nissan 370Z Roadster**  
Base price: \$51,238  
Excellent bits don't seem to add up to an engaging experience.

**Review.** With a new MX-5 on the horizon, let's hope Mazda sticks with its Miata formula for fun and affordability

MIKE  
GOETZ  
drive@metronews.ca

Nobody rocks the concept of a fun and affordable two-seat roadster quite like Mazda. Then again, nobody else really tries anymore.

And who could blame them? Why invest in a separate platform, which is hard to share with other vehicles, for a shrinking pool of buyers?

These cars don't exude the prestige they used to in North America and Europe, as crossovers continue their unrelenting path to complete

vehicle domination. And there isn't much demand for them in China and other emerging markets, perhaps defeated by concerns about the weather, traffic and pollution, and a preference among the rich to be chauffeured rather than drive themselves around.

All of which makes the MX-5 even more precious to those of us who still enjoy driving.

From its inception in 1990, the Miata was conceived as a car to provide the most driving joy per dollar, by keeping engine size and power in check, and concentrating on lightness, balance, driver feedback and simplicity.

And although the car was renamed the MX-5 in 2006, Mazda hasn't strayed from the script since, including the all-new 2016 MX-5, which is waiting in the wings.

Compared to most every-



The cabin is tight but cosy, with miniature controls and little storage space.

thing else on the road, the Miata/MX-5 is a small and precise gem. And the 2015 25th-anniversary edition is even more gem-like, with some elegant cosmetic touches, and a knockout Soul Red Micra paint job.

With just 100 anniversary editions available in Canada,

they sold out months ago, but you can still buy the equally impressive 2014 GT model.

The MX-5 offers very light and agile handling. The 2.0-litre four-cylinder engine likes to rev, but takes premium fuel. Its 167 horsepower are not overwhelm-

ing, but everything feels faster when you're this low and connected to the pavement. And the manual gearbox is one of the most satisfying to use in autodom.

The ride is not as stiff as you might expect, because it doesn't need a stiff suspension for handling, but it is a bit noisy on the highway.

The cabin is tight, but cosy, with miniature controls and little storage space. Your legs go straight out, with no bend to the knee.

The optional power hardtop roof is slick, but the manual top is super light and easy to use. The trunk is small but surprisingly useful.

Net result: The MX-5 is one very fine, two-seat, convertible sports car.

## AUGMENTED REALITY

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### Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

#### ♈ Aries

March 21 - April 20

Someone will turn to you and you won't let them down. You like few things better than charging to the rescue, especially when backing the underdog against a bully.

#### ♉ Taurus

April 21 - May 21

A colleague will make you an offer you find hard to refuse today, but can you trust them? Find out if it is genuine and, if it is, let them know quickly you want in on the game.

#### ♊ Gemini

May 22 - June 21

There will be some remarkable developments in the final days of the year but conserve your energy. The less you do now the more you will gain later on.

#### ♋ Cancer

June 22 - July 23

Someone will try to pressure you into justifying what you are doing. Do what feels right to you and, if others don't like it, that's just too bad.

#### ♌ Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Try to build bridges to people you don't always get along with. Just because you have different outlooks does not mean you cannot be friends.

#### ♍ Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Don't worry if you have fallen out with a loved one. A few days from now you will be the best of friends again, so don't take it personally if they don't seem to care. They do really.

#### ♎ Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Make time for family members and make sure they know how much you love them. It won't hurt to be a bit more emotionally expressive.

#### ♏ Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

According to your solar chart this is a good day for doing nothing much, so sit back, relax and let life come to you.

#### ♐ Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Deep down you are a big softie and what happens today will prove it. Someone who needs a helping hand will have much to thank you for. It could be the start of a beautiful friendship.

#### ♑ Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

For best results you should try to be on the move today. If you stay in the same place you could miss out on something special. Get moving and see where fate takes you.

#### ♒ Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

Make the most of Mars in your sign to try something new and maybe take a few risks. You have always been the adventurous sort and now you are determined to show you have absolutely no fear.

#### ♓ Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

Take life at a sensible pace, especially if you are hosting friends and family over the holiday period. Don't try to do everything yourself.

### Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan

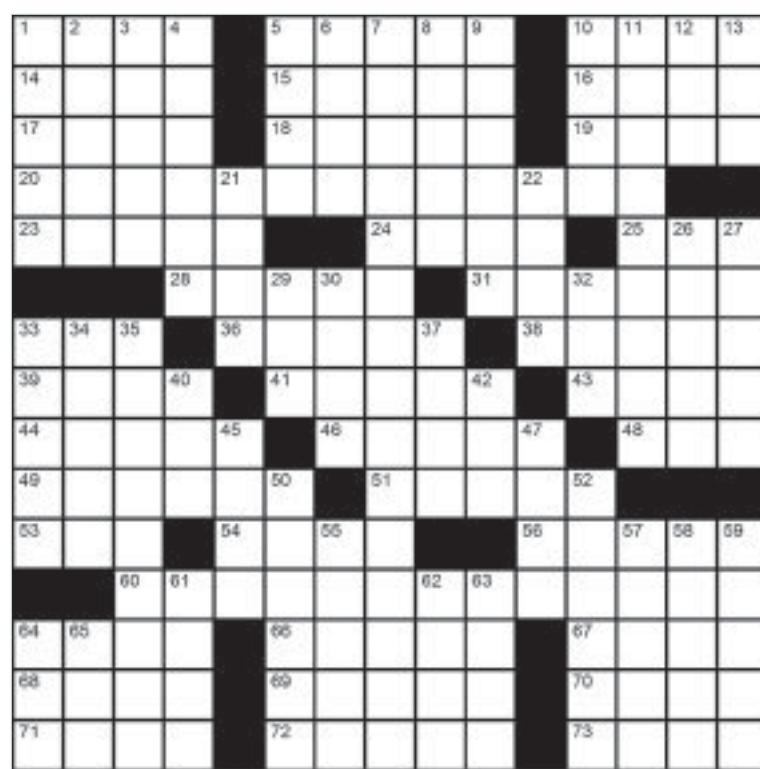
#### Across

- Herd baby
- Pointer
- Hurt
- Spoken
- "Silver Bells" bit:  
"Children laughing / People passing / Meeting \_\_ after..."
- Christmastime 'pet'
- Ms. Suvari
- Reindeers' sniffers
- "God \_\_ Ye Merry, Gentlemen"
- "On the seventh day of Christmas / My true love gave to me / Seven \_\_ \_\_ ..." - Bob & Doug McKenzie, "12 Days of Christmas"
- "Silent Night": \_\_ in heavenly peace."
- "Let It Snow": "But the \_\_ is so delightful!"
- Mr. Capote, shortly
- Christmas star
- Court game
- Got [abbr.]
- Rudolph's straps
- Terre-\_\_ (Newfoundland)
- "\_\_! The Herald Angels Sing"
- Principle
- 'Game' suffix
- Cookies left for #28-Across, perhaps
- Tint-to-hair appliers
- Jr.s' fathers
- Reindeer crew

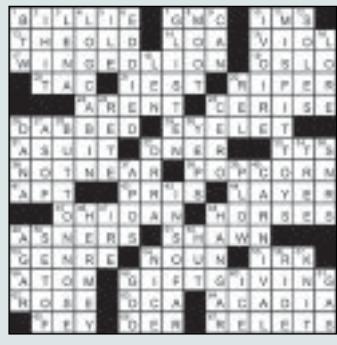
#### Down

- Member
- Threshold
- Ands: French
- Bellow!
- Fragrance
- Gift disguiser: 2 wds.
- \_\_ in a Manger
- Bird of Jove
- Roman emperor
- Ms. Gilbert
- Mythological blood
- Mr. Kringle
- Religious song
- (Food packaging meas.)
- Fully satisfy

- Free passes, briefly
- "It's been \_\_ pleasure."
- Mr. Bass
- Snowy droplets
- \_\_ other (Without equals)
- "\_\_ two minds..."
- "Jingle Bells": A day or two ago / I thought I'd take a ride / And soon \_\_ \_\_ / Was seated by my side."
- Fragrant resin



### Yesterday's Crossword



### Online

See today's answers at  
[metronews.ca/answers](http://metronews.ca/answers)



### Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

**How to play**  
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

### Yesterday's Sudoku

1	2	6	4	3	9	5	7	8
7	9	3	2	5	8	6	4	1
4	8	5	1	7	6	2	3	9
3	7	4	6	9	5	1	8	2
9	1	2	3	8	4	7	5	6
6	5	8	7	1	2	4	9	3
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